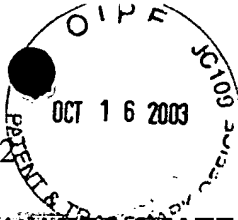


AUSTIN et al
Appl. No. 09/403,392
October 16, 2003



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

AUSTIN et al

Atty. Ref.: 3525-28; Confirmation No. 7217

Appl. No. 09/403,392

Group: 1624

Filed: October 21, 1999

Examiner: Tamthom Ngo Truong

For: NOVEL COMPOUNDS

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October 16, 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the Official Action mailed May 16, 2003 (for which petition is hereby made for a two month extension of time), please amend the above-identified application as follows:

10/21/2003 JBALINAM 00000019 09403392

01 FC:1252

420.00 OP